Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 AID-20

COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 CIEP-02

LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 STR-08 CEA-02 INT-08 TAR-02

DRC-01 /259 W

----- 092891

R 110618Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8676

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

AMEMBASSY BANGUI

AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMEMBASSY KIGALI

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, XA, XW, JA

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE ECONOMIC SANCTIONS AGAINST US

REF: STATE 238685

SUMMARY: FONOFF OFFICIALS INDICATED CONCERN OVER PROBLEM DESCRIBED REFTEL BUT STATED THAT NO DECISION MADE ON WHAT ACTION, IF ANY, WOULD BE TAKEN. GOJ CLEARLY NOT PREPARED AT PRESENT TIME TO MAKE DEMARCHE SIMILIAR TO THAT OUTLINED REFTEL. REASON, AT LEAST IN PART, IS BECAUSE OF INCREASED OAU-ARAB SOLIDARITY AND FEAR THAT SUCH DEMARCHE MIGHT RUN COUNTER TO EFFORTS OF DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER MIKI ON HIS TRIP TO ARB COUNTRIES. END SUMMARY.

- 1. ON DECEMBER 7 ECON/COUNS MADE APPROACH TO OMURA AND MITSUHASHI, HEAD AND DEPUTY HEAD RESPECTIVELY OF FONOFF AFRICA DIVISION FONOFF OFFICIALS HAD TEXT OF DAR COMMUNIQUE, WHICH THEY SAID HAD BEEN STUDIED WITHIN FONOFF. CONTRARY TO REACTIONS IN LONDON 14355 AND DAR ES SALAAM 4055, OMURA INDICATED THAT GOJ CONCERNED OVER COMMUNIQUE AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR JAPAN. WHILE FONOFF DOES NOT ANTICIPATE THAT AFRICAN COUNTRIES ON VERGE OF IMPOSING SANCTIONS, HE SAID, NEITHER DOES IT UNDERESTIMATE SERIOUSNESS OF PROBLEM, WHICH IT EXPECTS WILL INCREASE OVER TIME.
- 2. HOWEVER, RATHER THAN SHOWING ANY SYMPATHY WITH US APPROACH OUTLINED REFTEL, OMURA INDICATED PRIMARY CONCERN WITH JUSTIFYING TO BLACK AFRICANS JAPAN'S TRADE WITH SOUTH AFRICA. NOTING THAT SOUTH AFRICA IS IMPOTANT TO JAPAN AS SOURCE OF IRON ORE AND CHROME AND AS POTENTIAL SOURCE OF URANIUM, FONOFF HOPES TO OBTAIN BLACK AFRICAN COUNTRIES' UNDERSTANDING BY EXPLAINING THAT JAPAN'S TRADE WITH BLACK AFRICA (ABOUT \$2 BILLION) IS MUCH LARGER THAN THAT WITH WHITE AFRICA (ABOUT \$800,000) AND THAT JAPAN'S TRADE WITH SOUTH AFRICA IS INCREASING LESS RAPIDLY THAN THAT WITH THE WORLD AS A WHOLE. (OMURA CONCEDED THAT ABOVE FIGURES MISLEADING IN THAT ABOUT \$1 BILLION IN TRADE WITH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BLACK AFRICA IS EXPORT OF SHIPS TO LIBERIA).

3. FURTHER CAUSE FOR CONCERN, ACCORDING TO OMURA, IS INCREASING OAU-ARAB SOLIDARITY, WICH MIGHT FURTHER ADVERSELY AFFECT SUPPLY OF OIL TO JAPAN IF ARABS TAKE UP CAUSE OF BLACK AFRICANS WITH RESPECT TO TRADE WITH SOUTH AFRICA. RELATED TO THIS IS FACT THAT DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER MIKI LEFT DECEMBER 10 ON TRIP TO ARAB

| COUNTRIES, AND GOJ OBVIOUSLY UNWILLING TAKE ANY ACTIONS |
|---|
| WHICH MIGHT EVEN REMOTELY JEOPARDIZE SUCCESS OF THAT |
| MISSION. |
| SHOFSMITH |

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